

## STATE NEWS

## FROM CURRITUCK TO CHEROKEE.

Items of Interest Gleaned From Our Correspondents and Exchanges.

Ed. L. Utley, who was convicted of murder in the second degree for the killing of Theo. B. Hollingsworth, of Fayetteville, last January, was last week carried to the penitentiary to serve his term of twenty years. He will be put to work in the brick-yard.

Exchange: The Charlotte Observer is progressive and will shortly start an afternoon edition to be known as the Chronicle, with Mr. Howard Banks, editor. The Charlotte News follows suit and proposes to start a morning paper, as a rival to the Observer. This is competition clear and cut throat, and we fear will do more hurt than good to these progressive papers.

Raleigh News and Observer: A bill was passed by the last Legislature permitting the people of Scotland Neck to vote on the question of bonds for electric lights and graded schools. That election has been held and carried by a good majority for schools and lights. By the terms of the bill the town may issue bonds to the amount of ten thousand dollars for graded schools and an equal amount for electric lights.

Charlotte Observer: There are at present 17 cotton mills in Charlotte, operating 115,000 spindles and 2,000 looms. The new factories under contract to be built this year will increase the number of spindles by 80,800 spindles and 1,300 looms, giving Charlotte nearly 200,000 spindles and 3,300 looms. And this does not include a new silk mill of 70,000 spindle capacity, which, it is said, is to be built here this year.

Greensboro dispatch in Charlotte Observer: Mr. W. B. Trodgen, a civil engineer, has just returned from Spray. He reports that Mr. B. Frank Mebane and a German syndicate have bought and paid for 4,000 acres of land and will build a cotton mill, which will be equipped with 200,000 spindles and 14,000 looms. The same company, it is said, will also build the biggest woolen mill in the world to manufacture blankets. The new industries will be located near Spray.

The sixtieth annual session of the Grand Lodge, I. O. O. F., of North Carolina in Wilmington last week, was made notable in the annals of Odd Fellowship by the adoption of a resolution providing for the establishment of a home for aged and indigent members in connection with the orphanage at Goldsboro. The following officers were elected and duly installed: Grand Master, Dr. L. B. McBrayer, Asheville; Deputy Grand Master, H. E. Biggs, Scotland Neck; Grand Secretary, B. H. Woodell, Raleigh; Grand Treasurer, Richard J. Jones, Wilmington; Grand Warden, Plato Collins, Kinston; Grand Representative, J. F. Griffith,

Winston; Trustees of Orphans Home, C. Dewy, Goldsboro, (for five years); Grand Conductor, E. N. Penny, Wilmington; Grand Marshal, B. W. Barnett, Charlotte; Grand Guardian, Dr. Geo. W. Reid, Biltmore; Grand Herald, E. D. Arthur, Morehead City; Grand Chaplain, Rev. F. N. Skinner, Clinton.

Col. Olds: A member of the State Liquor Dealers' Association says that he is paying no attention to the clause in the prohibition act, for Cleveland, Gaston, Cabarrus, Mitchell, which makes the place of delivery the place of sale for spirituous liquors anywhere in the State. He says that he and other dealers are filling orders for liquor in prohibition territory as before the passage of the act. —The trustees of St. Mary's School will hold their annual meeting here, May 27, during commencement week, when Rev. Dr. T. D. Bratton will present his resignation as rector of the school and his successor will be chosen. The trustees of St. Mary's are selected from the four dioceses of North Carolina, South Carolina, Eastern Carolina and Asheville. Dr. Bratton's successor will doubtless be taken from one of these dioceses. Dr. Bratton will of course remain here and complete this session's work before assuming his duties as bishop of Mississippi.

## Sensational Murder Case in Wilson.

Wilson dispatch, 14th: Last night about 1 o'clock there was a terrible tragedy in Goldsboro street in this town, in which T. P. Jones was so badly wounded that he died a few hours later, and John Allen received a painful wound through the shoulder. George Whitley gave Jones notice yesterday to leave town or a crowd would take him in hand. Jones declined to leave, but took out a peace warrant against Whitley, who was required to give bond to keep the peace. About the hour named, a crowd went to Jones' sleeping room, where the trouble occurred.

Wilson dispatch, 16th: The jury of inquest that has been taking testimony in the Jones murder case since yesterday has just concluded its labors, and find that the said Percy Jones came to his death by pistol shot wounds and at the hands of Gilbert Ward, J. B. Piver, W. H. Rich, W. P. Croom, W. W. Barnes, George Whitley and John Allen. The grand jury, however, returned into open court this afternoon (court being in session here this week) a "true bill" for murder in the first degree, not only against the above-named, but included in the bill Lawrence Morgan, John Pittman, S. P. Walls and J. T. Bass.

All of these parties are in jail. It is thought that a special term of court will be asked for to try them.

Later.—In habeas corpus proceedings before Judge Brown Saturday, Walls, Croom, Morgan, Pittman and Bass were let out on bail, the bonds being for \$1,200. The other six men are still held.

## Ernest Haywood Asks to be Let Out on Bail; Hearing on Thursday, 21st.

Raleigh Cor. Messenger: The counsel for Ernest Haywood, who is confined in jail here for shooting and killing Ludlow Skinner in front of the post-office, Saturday, February 21st, to-day instituted habeas corpus proceedings for his release from custody on bail. His petition was drawn up by Messrs. Argo & Shaffer.

Col. Thos. M. Argo, of the counsel for the defendant, this morning presented to Judge Robert M. Douglas, of the Supreme Court, a petition for writ of habeas corpus. The purpose of the petition is to have a hearing before Judge Douglas in order that Mr. Haywood may be admitted to bail. After reading the petition, which was duly verified, Judge Douglas issued the writ, making it returnable before him in the rooms of the Supreme Court on Thursday afternoon, May 21, at 3.30 p. m. He also ordered that the Clerk of the Superior Court of Wake County should issue such subpoenas and process as might be requested by the prosecution or the defense. Justice Douglas announced that he would request some other Judge of the Supreme Court to sit with him upon the hearing of the case. It will be a hard fought legal battle and the number of witnesses in this case will doubtless break all criminal records here. The defense claims to have discovered important witnesses since the March court. One of the lawyers for the accused said to-day that he would not be surprised if the total number of witnesses for the defense and prosecution exceeded 160. On the other hand, Senator Woodard, of the prosecution, thinks there may be 220 or 230 witnesses. If anything like this number are to be examined, Judge Douglas has a lengthy hearing on his hands.

Later.—Judge Douglas has postponed the hearing till Thursday, May 28th.

## The Factory Child Labor Law.

The General Assembly of North Carolina do enact:

Section 1. That no child under twelve years of age shall be employed or work in any factory or manufacturing establishment, within this State: Provided, this act shall not apply to oyster canning and packing manufactories in this State, where said canning and packing manufactories pay for opening or shucking oysters by the gallon or bushel.

Sec. 2. That not exceeding sixty-six hours shall constitute a week's work in all factories and manufacturing establishments of this State, and no person under 18 years of age shall be required to work in such factories or establishments a longer period than sixty-six hours in one week: Provided, that this section shall not apply to engineers, firemen, machinists, superintendents, overseers, section and yard hands, office men, watchmen or repairers of breakdowns.

Sec. 3. All parents, or persons standing in relation or parent, upon

hiring their children to any factory or manufacturing establishment, shall furnish such establishment a written statement of the age of such child or children being so hired, and any such parent, or person standing in the relation of parent to such child or children, who shall in such written statement misstate the age of such child or children being so employed, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction shall be punished at the discretion of the court. Any mill owner, superintendent or other person acting in behalf of a factory or manufacturing establishment who shall knowingly or willfully violate the provisions of this act shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction shall be punished at the discretion of the court.

Sec. 4. That this act shall be in force from and after January 1st, of March, A. D. 1903.

## The Counties Which are Supporting the Others.

A deep impression was produced upon the press and people of North Carolina by the recent showing made by Dr. Geo. W. Graham, of this city, from the Treasurer's report, that for the fiscal year 1902, just one-half of the counties of the State received from the State Treasury for pensions, schools and support of their citizens in public institutions, more money than they paid into it. It was a shocking, almost incredible statement, that half the counties of the State are pauper and are supported by the other half, but the Treasurer's figures bear it out, and to advert to the matter now is timely, inasmuch as the season for tax listing and for the re-assessment of real estate is near at hand. It might not be kind to print here a list of the counties which are pensioners upon the others—a kinder way of giving the public the information on the subject which it should have is to give a list of the counties which pay into the State Treasury a surplus of revenue over what they receive from it, and this list follows:

Alamance, Beaufort, Bertie, Buncombe, Cabarrus, Camden, Catawba, Cherokee, Chowan, Craven, Davie, Durham, Edgecombe, Forsyth, Franklin, Gaston, Graham, Greene, Guilford, Halifax, Henderson, Hertford, Iredell, Jackson, Jones, Lenoir, Martin, Mecklenburg, Moore, Nash, New Hanover, Northampton, Onslow, Pasquotank, Perquimans, Person, Pitt, Richmond, Robeson, Rockingham, Rowan, Scotland, Swain, Vance, Wake, Warren, Washington, Wayne and Wilson.

The counties which are in the vocative run up an aggregate deficit of \$121,575.83; those which pay a surplus have to their credit an aggregate sum of \$208,318.50. The county paying the largest surplus is Mecklenburg—\$19,915.20; the county with the least surplus to its account is Franklin—\$140.72.

The figures tell but one story, and that points to the necessity for a more equitable system of taxation between the counties. It is clear that in some of them property is returned and assessed at figures far lower than they should be.—Exchange.